

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Operations Committee meeting

7 May 2010

held at: Consort House, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held in Consort House, Glasgow, on 7 May 2010

Present Councillors David Fagan (Chair), Jonathan Findlay, Bobby McDill, Marie McGurk, Alan Moir, Tommy Morrison, Chris Thompson and appointed members Tom Hart and Bill Ure.

Apologies Councillors Bill Grant, Mark Griffin, William Hendrie, Denis McKenna, Eddie Phillips, John Reid, David Wilson and appointed member Ronnie Mellis.

Attending Valerie Bowen, Senior Clerk, Gordon Maclennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) and Neil Wylie, Director of Finance.

Also Attending John Yellowlees, First ScotRail.

1. Declaration of interest

The committee noted that there were no declarations of interest.

2. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 19 March 2010 (issued) was submitted and approved as a correct record.

Arising from the minute with regard to

- (1) page 1, paragraph 2 (1), Mr Stewart advised members
 - (a) of the patronage figures on limited stop service 904 East Kilbride – Edinburgh; and
 - (b) that tenders had been invited for the contract to be extended until July 2011;
- (2) page 1, paragraph 2 (2), Mr Maclennan advised members
 - (a) that figures had now been received from Transport Scotland on Park & Ride statistics for all First ScotRail stations within the SPT area and were in the process of being analysed; and
 - (b) that a report would be submitted to the next Strategy and Programmes Committee; and
- (3) page 7, paragraph 11, the committee agreed that a request be made to Silvers Marine UK Ltd for the provision of patronage figures on the Renfrew – Yoker ferry crossing.

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3. Public transport services monitoring report

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 April 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) informing the committee of the latest trends in the number of passengers carried and the reliability of services directly operated and supported by the Partnership and on ScotRail services in the SPT area; and
- (2) providing information on the current status of SPT's six point bus action plan for the continuing improvement of bus service delivery within the region, together with regulating and fleet profile statistics.

After considerable discussion and having heard Messrs Maclennan and Stewart in answer to members' questions, the committee noted the contents of the report.

4. Proposed award of consolidated cleaning contract for Subway, Bus and Consort House premises

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 April 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) detailing tenders received for a consolidated cleaning contract for Subway, Bus and Consort House premises;
- (2) explaining that, in order to reflect SPT's operational needs and to assist in the evaluation, the contract had been tendered in the following lots:-
 - Lot 1 – Subway premises;
 - Lot 2 – Bus and Travel Centre premises;
 - Lot 3 – Consort House;
 - Lot 4 – Glazing cleaning; and
 - Lot 5 – Subway train cleaning; and
- (3) highlighting the tender process followed.

After discussion and having heard Mr Stewart outline minor changes to the cost of the tenders received following a further analysis of prices, the committee

- (a) agreed
 - (i) that Lots 1, 2 and 3 of the contract be awarded on a consolidated basis to the lowest tenderer, SASSE Ltd,, for up to a maximum sum of £2,331,590 for a three year contract period commencing June 2010, which included an option to extend the contract for up to a further two years, subject to satisfactory performance; and

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- (ii) that Lots 4 and 5 be tendered separately following a review to establish how best to ensure that SPT's customer service standards were achieved in the most economically advantageous manner; and
- (b) noted that the contract was subject to satisfactory requirements of the mandatory standstill period of public sector contracts.

5. Subsidised local bus service contract recommendations – financial implications

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 April 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) advising the committee of the financial implications of members' possible decisions relating to the remaining items on the agenda.

After discussion and having heard Mr Wylie inform members of the current funding position for the subsidised local bus budget for 2010/2011, the committee noted the report in relation to the financial implications of awarding any contracts and agreed to give due consideration to these implications when making decisions on these contracts.

6. Subsidised local bus service contracts – report on tenders

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 27 April 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) detailing tenders received for a number of new subsidised bus services which included tenders invited as a result of changes made by various operators to their commercial networks, the committee noted

- (1) that, in view of the high cost of tenders received for such a low patronage service, contract LS053 Sinclairston – Skares – Cumnock (service 347A) had not been awarded;
- (2) that, in view of the high cost of tenders received contract LS055 Southcraig – Kilmarnock (service 101) had not been awarded; and
- (3) that other transport solutions were being examined for both services.

7. Proposed award of new subsidised service contracts

After consideration of various reports (issued) by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) on tenders received for the award of a Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) service contract and the renewal of various subsidised local bus service contracts, the committee agreed to the award or otherwise of the undernoted contracts:-

Item No	Contract	Operator	Contract amount	Decision
7. Click here				
Award of DRT contract 6965A	Contract 6965A Carrick DRT (service 700)	Ayrways Coach Travel Ltd	£474,000	Accept. Lowest compliant tender. Contract period 19 July 2010 to 18 July 2015.
	Previous ref 22 January 2010			

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Item No	Contract	Operator	Contract amount	Decision
8. Click here Renewal of subsidised local bus service contracts	Contract 6485K Kilmarnock – Cumnock – Muirkirk (service X76)	Western Buses	£225,557	Accept. Lowest compliant tender. Contract period 18 July 2010 to 13 July 2013.
	Previous ref 22 January 2010			
	Contract 6790D1 Dunure – Ayr – Straiton (service 361)	Ayrways Coach Travel Ltd	£874,800	Accept. Lowest compliant tender. Contract period 18 July 2010 to 18 July 2015, based on SPT supplying the vehicles on a lease basis. Agreed to invite tenders to purchase one vehicle at an estimated cost of £90,000.
	Contract 6876D Kilwinning – Irvine – Mongomerie Park (services 27 & 29)	Bennetts of Kilwinning	£226,200	Accept. Lowest compliant tender. Contract period 18 July 2010 to 18 July 2015.
	Contract 6917E Kilmarnock – Dundonald – Muirhead – Troon (service 110)	Western Buses	£179,433	Accept. Lowest compliant tender. Contract period 18 July 2010 to 13 July 2013.
Previous ref 22 January 2010				
	Contract LS007C Bishopbriggs Circular (service 142)	John Morrow Coaches	£54,600	Accept. Lowest compliant tender. Contract period 18 July 2010 to 12 July 2013.

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Item No	Contract	Operator	Contract amount	Decision
	Contract L508B3 Allanton – Hamilton – Bellshill – Strathclyde Business Park	-	-	Agreed, due to the high subsidy cost per passenger, to discontinue the subsidy, resulting in the probable withdrawal of the service.

8. Amendments to subsidised local bus services

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 27 April 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) on changes to subsidised local bus service contracts at no cost to SPT, the committee noted

- (1) that the routes of contracts 6159/6169A/6985B Ayr – Girvan – Stranraer/Portpatrick (service 358/360) and contract 6031F Girvan – Newton Stewart (service 359) had been revised to serve the grounds of the new Girvan Community Hospital from 3 May 2010; and
- (2) that the route and timetable of contract LS011T Coatbridge – Eurocentral – Strathclyde Business Park (service 416) had been revised to avoid congestion on the M8 and Shawhead Interchange from 26 April 2010.

9. Enhanced DRT funding applications: Create Ltd, Stepping Stones for Families and Glasgow Hospital Visitor Transport service

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 28 April 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) reminding members that SPT managed the grant funding of community transport projects on behalf of its constituent authorities;
- (2) detailing requests for grant funding received from Create Ltd, Stepping Stones for Families and the Glasgow Hospital Evening Visitor service to be met from the DRT budget;
- (3) intimating that, although Stepping Stones for Families had submitted a three year funding application, a number of issues required to be resolved before SPT could award full grant funding; and
- (4) informing members
 - (a) that SPT, through the West of Scotland Community Transport Forum, was in the process of developing the provision of community transport within North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire and West Dunbartonshire areas where there was little community transport presence; and

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- (b) that funding in the amount of £90,000, equating to £30,000 per project, had been approved under SPT's Scheme of Delegated functions.

After discussion and having heard Mr Stewart in answer to members' questions, the committee

- (i) agreed
 - (A) to grant fund Create Ltd in the sum of £3,000 for the current financial year;
 - (B) to grant fund Stepping Stones for Families in the sum of £21,505 on an interim basis to allow the continuation of the project from 1 April 2010 to 30 June 2011, in order that various issues within the application could be resolved; and
 - (C) to grant fund Glasgow City Hospital Evening Visitor Transport service in the sum of £30,000 for the current financial year; and
- (ii) noted the award of grant funding of £90,000 for the development of community transport projects within the North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire and West Dunbartonshire areas.

10. Acquisition of vehicles

[Click here to view report](#)

After consideration of a report of 27 April 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) seeking the committee's approval to purchase a number of buses powered by Series Hybrid Technology which would be supplied to respective operators on a full repair and lease basis for operation on designated bus services, the committee agree to the procurement of five vehicles from Alexander Dennis Ltd at a cost of £1,197,620.

11. Requests for subsidised local bus services

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 27 April 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), advising members of various requests for the provision of subsidised local bus services.

After consideration, the committee

- (1) agreed not to take any further action in respect of the local subsidised bus service requests at paragraphs (a), (b), (d), (e) and (g); and
- (2) approved the recommendations in respect of the undernoted requests: -

Request	Decision
Reinstatement of an evening bus service in Townhead, Coatbridge which had been withdrawn several years ago due to vandalism.	The committee agreed that tenders be invited for a temporary contract to operate an hourly service Monday to Saturday evenings between Townhead and Carnbroe via Coatbridge South Circular Road and Cliftonville with effect from early June 2010, subject to the approval of the Traffic
(item c)	

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Commissioner and that long term tenders be sought at a later date and reported to a future meeting of the committee.

Diversion of one afternoon journey from Whiting Bay via Auchrannie and one journey from Brodick via Auchrannie on service 323 Whiting Brae to Brodick.

The committee noted that journeys would operate Monday to Saturday and commence at the start of the new winter timetable on 25 October 2010.

(item f)

Provision of a direct bus service from Bishopton to Glasgow.

The committee agreed that the appropriate bus operators be contacted with a view to providing a commercial bus service, possibly using the Network Enhancement Grant.

(item h)

Partial replacement of a bus service for the altered Blue Bus service 701 Wishaw – Harthill – Livingston which would no longer serve Torbothie.

The committee

noted that a temporary contract for a service numbered 26A Torbothie – Wishaw General Hospital via Morningside had been arranged with effect from 10 May 2010, subject to approval from the Traffic Commissioner; and

(item i)

agreed that tenders for a longer term contract be sought.

Provision of a bus service from Galston Town Centre to Maxwood Crescent and Castlevue Avenue.

The committee agreed that options currently under investigation be discussed with interested parties and a report submitted to a future meeting of the committee.

(item j)